



DOCKET NO: 249181US0CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
PIERRE BLANCHARD, ET AL. : EXAMINER: NILAND, P.  
SERIAL NO: 10/781,686 :  
FILED: FEBRUARY 20, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1714  
RCE FILED: MARCH 22, 2006  
FOR: NOVEL RHEOLOGY :  
REGULATORS SUCH AS GROUND  
NATURAL CALCIUM CARBONATES  
OPTIONALLY TREATED WITH A  
FATTY ACID OR SALT AND THEIR USE

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 2, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment, newly-submitted comparative data, and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Discussion of the Amendment** begins on page 9 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.